

JULY MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

July has been pretty slow month. We had very poor showings at our Thursday night meetings. We hope that it was because our membership was away for vacations and other activities. It was kind of depressing since we still had new members showing up and hope it didn't affect their decision on joining.

Col Cooksey and I had planned to go to the National Conference, in my motor home, but ended up having to cancel because of my oxygen problem. I wasn't able to get the RV set up with a LOX tank. Mainly I was interested in going to the conference to find out how the new procedure for selecting a region commander would work. It seems that Colonel Robinson's tour ends in August and they will be selecting a new region commander at the national level for the first time. On the list were Seven prior or current RMR wing commanders and an RMR Deputy Commander.

Staff

We have a couple of staff positions open. I still need a Professional Development Officer, and a Public Affairs Officer.

Membership

We have had a number of visitors, who have shown an interest in joining. We are at 70 members as of the July 11 Monthly Membership Listing (MML).

OPS/ES

The SDIS System has been inoperative, but **Col Cortum** is seeing about getting it tested and if necessary repaired. We are doing well in getting Cadet Orientation Flights scheduled and performed. Remember that Cadet O'Flights are a critical input to the statistics used for designation of Cadet Squadron of Distinction.

Aircraft 46A has been repaired after the Great Bird Strike Incident and 24N has been returned to wing for use while other aircraft are out of service. We have a number of our pilots in the first 7 member group to be checked out in the GA-8 aircraft that will have the Archer System installed. They are **Lt Col Bob Beabout, Lt Col Jim Jenkins, and Lt Col Burke McClure**. Also on the list but not making the first cut are **1Lt Mikhail Belov, 1Lt Bill Ellis, and Major Steve Purcell**. They will get to check out at a later date.

TRAINING

The second iteration of aircrew training has begun. **Colonel Cooksey** was the project Officer on the Mission Scanner Training in July. Members who completed the course were **SM Charles Beaman, SM David Booth, 2Lt Roger Carlyle, SM Mark Patton, 2Lt Curtis Dinkel (CO-080), and Robert Schmid (CO-136)**. They only need to attend a SAREX or wait until we get approval of our request for a mini SAREX to complete the SQTR'. Thanks to the instructors that helped instruct the tasks needed to complete the SQTR. They include **Lt Col Bob Beabout, Col Jim Cooksey, 1Lt Bill Ellis, 1Lt Ted Gravlin, Lt Col David Hurtado (CO-001), 2Lt Brandon Nadrash, 1Lt Ron Pearce, 1Lt Rick Simonds, and 1Lt Bob York.**

Col Jim Cooksey needs some help with the next class which will be a Mission Observer Class. We are looking for a Project Officer to set up the next class.

Norman G. Kholos
Norman G. Kholos, Colonel, CAP
Commander
Black Sheep Senior Squadron